



## Beneficial Effects of Soygurt Intake in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Animal Model Rat (*Rattus Norvegitus*)

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**Abstract:** Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) is the more common type of diabetes results from the ineffective use of insulin. Improvement of the metabolic system in T2DM patients can be done through the regulation of gut microbiota balance. Gut microbial improvement can be modulated directly by probiotic food consumption. Soygurt is probiotic food with a low glycemic index (GI) and glycemic load (GL) value and rich in isoflavones, which has a potential effect in reducing diabetes risk. The aim of this study is to determine the effect of soygurt consumption in blood glucose levels and body weight of albino wistar rats (*Rattus norvegitus*). Reseach using a completely randomized design for experimental study. Subjects of this research are 30 male rats (*R. norvegistus*) aged 2-3 months with average body weight 150-200 gr. Diabetic rats were induced by using single intraperitoneal injection (175 mg/kg BW) alloxan monohydrate. Soygurt feeding given once daily using oral gavage feeding. The result showed that soygurt feeding in diabetic rats with three variations of treatment could significantly ( $p < 0,05$ ), lowering blood sugar level and improve body weight after 28 days of treatment. Treatment of 4ml/day soygurt has the highest effect in lowering blood sugar level and improving body weight, followed by treatment of 3ml/day and 2ml/day soygurt.

**Keyword:** Soygurt, Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus, Blood Sugar Level, Body Weight, *Rattus norvegitus*

### INTRODUCTION

Type 2 diabetes mellitus is a metabolic disorder characterized by hyperglycemia, which occurs due to abnormal insulin secretion, impaired insulin action, or both (Lathifah, 2013). Impaired action and resistance of insulin in type 2 diabetes mellitus are associated with the incidence of intestinal microbial dysbiosis. Dysbiosis triggers chronic systemic low-grade inflammation, which causes decreased insulin sensitivity in the liver, muscles, and adipose tissue, which leads to insulin resistance (Allin et al., 2015). The regulation of intestinal microbial balances become urgent issues in type 2 diabetes mellitus patient, especially to maintain blood sugar balance and prevent complications (Astuti & Maulani, 2017).

Gut microbiota plays a crucial role in control fermentation and absorption of dietary polysaccharides to produce short-chain fatty acids (SCFA), modulation host immune system, modulation of inflammatory processes, extraction of energy from the host diet and alterations of human gene expression (Blandino et al., 2016). The shift of gut microbiota from normobiosis to dysbiosis will effect the deficiency of microbiota compositional and functional diversity. Dysbiosis favors the overgrowth of Gram-negative bacteria and reducing Gram-positive bacteria (Ballak et al., 2014). The overgrowth of Gram-negative bacteria will affect in increasing production of

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lipopolysaccharide (LPS) from bacteria cell walls. This condition may induce translocation of LPS and bacteria toxins across intestinal lumen into the blood circulation and triggers low-grade systemic inflammation, which plays a vital role in metabolic disorder and insulin resistance (Punder & Pruijboom, 2015).

The abundance of gut microbial can be modulated directly through the consumption of probiotics and prebiotics (Azad et al., 2018). Probiotics are defined as living bacteria when administered in adequate amounts will confer a health benefit on the host. Probiotics products have used for centuries, especially in dairy foods such as yogurt and kefir (Ranadheera et al., 2017). Consumption of probiotics products based on cohort studies also known to be able to increase glutathione peroxidase activity and significantly reduce fasting blood sugar value, therefore suitable for people with glucose metabolic disorder (Lazar et al., 2019).

Probiotics food that began to offer as a healthy diet for T2DM is probiotic yogurt (Barengolts et al., 2019). Yogurt is fermented milk with a low glycemic index (GI) and glycemic load (GL), which positively correlated in decreasing blood glucose (Wolever, 2017). Most commercial yogurt product is a dairy product based on cow's milk. As a cow's milk-based product, dairy yogurt may contain cholesterol based on the milk composition. Therefore the consistency of dairy yogurt in improving metabolism is still being debated (Madjd et al., 2016). Besides cow's milk, several studies state that yogurt also can be produced from vegetable milk, especially soymilk. Soymilk contains dietary fiber and relatively higher protein than cow's milk. Soymilk supplemented with lactose or glucose satisfies the requirement for lactic acid fermentation and is converted to edible yogurt-like dairy yogurt by lactic acid bacteria (Akusu & Wordu, 2017).

Soymilk yogurt (soygart) contains less or maybe not contain cholesterol depends on its composition. Its nutritional status can reduce the fears associated with high blood cholesterol and lactose of avid consumers of cow milk (Akusu & Wordu, 2017). Soymilk not only high in protein but also rich in isoflavones. Isoflavones are secondary metabolites producing by the Leguminosae plant, which is an excellent nutrient for regulating and stabilizing blood glucose. Isoflavone also has been shown to reduce the risk of diabetes in a laboratory study (Dan Ramdath et al., 2017). Based on Konya et al. (2019) research, soy protein had intrinsic activity on glycemic control, and its isoflavones can improve insulin resistance and Low-Density Lipoprotein (LDL) in patients with T2DM. Nguyen et al. (2017) report that a higher intake of soymilk and major isoflavones (daidzein, genistein, and glycitein) was significantly associated with a lower risk of T2DM in Vietnamese adults. Uchitomi et al. (2019) state that genestein and daidzein in soy can positively increase beta-oxidation and insulin sensitivity, which consequently decreasing fat concentration in blood and liver.

Fermented soymilk products may be beneficial from an economic than regular fermented milk products. From its nutritional point of view, soygart contains dietary fiber and isoflavones, which can be a promising product for the T2DM diet. Some of the previous studies have reported that probiotics yogurt and soy milk consumption may reduce the risk of overweight and insulin resistance in T2DM. However, data directly relating dairy intake of soya yogurt (soygart) to T2DM, and the effect of blood glucose and body weight remain sparse. Based on that, this study aimed to investigate the effect of daily soygart consumption on blood glucose level and body weight in Wistar mice (*Rattus norvegicus*) with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). This present study also investigates the association between daily soygart intake and lactic acid bacteria density in wistar mice with T2DM.

## MATERIALS AND METHOD

### Soygurt production

Soy milk (85% v/v) and skim milk (15% v/v) pasteurized ( $\pm 60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and added 1% sucrose, mixed well. After the pasteurization process, warmed milk until  $\pm 40^{\circ}\text{C}$  and inoculated 10% starter (*Streptococcus thermophilus* and *Lactobacillus bulgaricus*; 1:1 in concentration) to fermented soygurt. Incubated in room temperature for 12 hours until soygurt thick and tangy and transport to the refrigerator. Soygurt analyzed for fat, protein, and lactic acid content. Analysis conducted at the Faculty of Agricultural Technology Udayana University.

### Experimental animals

Ethical approval for this study provided by the Ethical Committee of Udayana University. Subjects of this research are 30 male Albino Wistar Rat Strain (*Rattus norvegicus*) aged 2-3 months with average body weight 150-200 gr. Animals were housed in clear sided cages (6/cage) at controlled temperature ( $22\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) with an artificial 12-hr light-dark cycle and had free access to water and a standard pellet diet. Animals housed over one week acclimatization period before treatment.

### Diabetes induction

Twenty four rats had fasted for 12-hours before diabetes-induced using alloxan monohydrate (Sigma Aldrich™) using single intraperitoneal injection (175 mg/kg BW). Meanwhile, six rats injected with saline solution and served as a negative control group (G1). After 72 hours and 96 hours of diabetes-induced groups and negative control, groups tested for fasting blood glucose levels using Glucose meter KIT (Easy Touch GCU). Blood is collected using a syringe needle from the lateral tail vein. Diabetes type 2 induced rats have fasting blood sugar  $> 200$  mg/dl; meanwhile, normal rats have fasting blood sugar levels  $< 100$ - $120$  mg/dl.

### Study design

Research using Completely Randomized Design for experimental study. Experimental design using five groups, each group consists of 6 subjects. The treatment period for this study was 28 days. Diabetic rats randomly divided into four groups. Soygurt feeding given once daily at 08.00 a.m using an oral gavage needle. Each group in this study had different treatment for soygurt diet that is :

No.	Group	Treatment
1.	First Group (G1)	Non-diabetic/ negative control group without soygurt diet treatment
2.	Second Group (G2)	Diabetic/ positive control group without soygurt diet treatment
3.	Third Group (G3)	The diabetic group with 2 ml soygurt diet treatment every day for 28 days
4.	Fourth Group (G4)	The diabetic group with 3 ml soygurt diet treatment every day for 28 days
5.	Fifth Group (G5)	The diabetic group with 4 ml soygurt diet treatment every day for 28 days

### Parameter analysis

Every week (7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> days), animals were tested for blood sugar level using Glucose Meter Kit (Easy Touch GCU), body weight, and lactic acid bacteria count in feces. Lactic acid bacteria counted using *Standard Plate Count*

(SPC) and inoculated in MRS Agar (de Man, Rogosa, and Sharpe Agar Merck™) with 1% CaCO<sub>3</sub>.

**Statistical Analyses**

Statistical analyses carried out using Mini Tab (Minitab Pty Ltd) Program version 19 for Windows. All data were expressed as mean ± standard deviation, General Linear Model (GLM) ANOVA and Duncan Multiple Range Test (DMRT) to differentiate the significance of treatment of each group. P value <0,05 were considered to be significant.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) Induction in Rats**

Healthy rats in acclimatization stage have normal blood sugar values in the range of 105-111 mg/dL and average body weight 167-191 gram. After induction of a single intraperitoneal dose of 175 mg/kg BW alloxan monohydrate, blood sugar in rats increases significantly than negative control treatment (G1) (p<0,05) (Table 1). Alloxan induction positively causes a metabolic syndrome of T2DM in rats by increasing fasting blood glucose value in range 465-520 mg/dL. Alloxan induction also affecting body weight in diabetic rats significantly (p<0,05). Based on the calculation of fecal microbes, it can conclude that T2DM induction on rats did not affect lactic acid bacteria density. This happening evidenced by the lactic acid bacteria density (log<sub>10</sub> CFU/gr) was not significantly different (p<0,05) than the negative control group (G1). Lactic acid bacteria density before alloxan induction was 8,32-8,42 log<sub>10</sub> CFU/ gr in range and after treatment 8,15-8,40 log<sub>10</sub> CFU/ gr in range and were not significantly different based on the DMRT test.

Table 1. Result of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Induction in Rats

No.	Group	Acclimatization			After Diabetic Type 2 Treatment		
		Blood sugar (mg/dl)	Body Weight (gram)	Lactid Acid Bacteria (log <sub>10</sub> cfu/g)	Blood sugar (mg/dl)	Body Weight (gram)	Lactid Acid Bacteria (log <sub>10</sub> cfu/g)
1.	G1	111 ± 10,49 <sup>a</sup>	191,667 ± 13,43 <sup>a</sup>	8.34 ± 0.24 <sup>a</sup>	103 ± 11,85 <sup>b</sup>	190,000 ± 12,90 <sup>a</sup>	8.39 ± 0.29 <sup>a</sup>
2.	G2	109 ± 7,66 <sup>a</sup>	172,500 ± 17,26 <sup>a</sup>	8.42 ± 0.35 <sup>a</sup>	520 ± 35,36 <sup>a</sup>	161,667 ± 26,87 <sup>ab</sup>	8.32 ± 0.32 <sup>a</sup>
3.	G3	106 ± 13,65 <sup>a</sup>	169,167 ± 18,808 <sup>a</sup>	8.32 ± 0.29 <sup>a</sup>	497 ± 52,58 <sup>a</sup>	146,667 ± 24,94 <sup>b</sup>	8.24 ± 0.22 <sup>a</sup>
4.	G4	105 ± 10,48 <sup>a</sup>	168,333 ± 13,43 <sup>a</sup>	8.35 ± 0.20 <sup>a</sup>	470 ± 74,51 <sup>a</sup>	146,667 ± 21,14 <sup>b</sup>	8.15 ± 0.22 <sup>a</sup>
5.	G5	105 ± 7,67 <sup>a</sup>	167,500 ± 20,36 <sup>a</sup>	8.33 ± 0.26 <sup>a</sup>	465 ± 52,20 <sup>a</sup>	136,667 ± 18,63 <sup>b</sup>	8.40 ± 0.32 <sup>a</sup>

Notes : Means that do not share a letter (a, b, c) are significantly different (p<0,05). G1: Negative control group (non-diabetic type 2 inducing rats). Data are mean values from six repetitions

**Effect of soygurt on blood glucose level**

The blood glucose level of diabetic rats after soygurt feeding treatment with a various volume of 2 ml, 3ml, and 4ml is consistently decreased every week. Soygurt feeding on rats for four weeks significantly reduced blood glucose levels compared to a positive control (without soygurt feeding treatment). In the first week, G4 (3ml soygurt/ day) and G5 (4ml soygurt/day) treatment have been able to reduce blood sugar as indicated by significantly blood sugar value compared to the positive control. Meanwhile, G3 (2ml soygurt/day) treatment showed significantly different blood sugar levels in third weeks feeding compared to the positive control. After four weeks of soygurt feeding, it was known that G3 group blood sugar decrease by 40,84%, G4 by 42,34%, and G5 by 51,39% from 0 weeks before treatment. G5 (4ml soygurt/day) is known as the best treatment to reduce blood sugar levels in rats. In the fourth week of treatment, the blood sugar level in G5 was 226±66,94 mg/dl on average, which is almost equal compared to the healthy group (G1) group (Table 2).

Table 2. Effect of soygurt on rat's glucose level

No.	Group	Blood Glucose (mg/dl)			
		1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
1.	G1 (negative control/ healthy rats)	115±14,20 <sup>c</sup>	95±13,55 <sup>c</sup>	103±6,52 <sup>c</sup>	93±5,69 <sup>c</sup>
2.	G2 (T2DM rats/ positive control)	542±53,75 <sup>a</sup>	498±56,18 <sup>a</sup>	534±39,60 <sup>a</sup>	528±59,64 <sup>a</sup>
3.	G3 (T2DM rats with 2 ml soygurt diet)	407±99,99 <sup>ab</sup>	362±86,72 <sup>ab</sup>	350±119,40 <sup>b</sup>	294±103,38 <sup>b</sup>
4.	G4 (T2DM rats with 3 ml soygurt diet)	361±67,08 <sup>b</sup>	302±76,48 <sup>b</sup>	303±65,77 <sup>b</sup>	271±97,13 <sup>b</sup>
5.	G5 (T2DM rats with 4 ml soygurt diet)	333±83,62 <sup>b</sup>	285±104,94 <sup>b</sup>	290±109,33 <sup>b</sup>	226±66,94 <sup>bc</sup>

Notes: Data are mean values from six repetitions. Means that do not share a letter (a, b, c) are significantly different (p<0,05).

**Effect of soygurt on body weight**

Healthy rats (G1) had normal body weight fluctuation every week. Meanwhile, rats with T2DM had drastic bodyweight loss in the first week. Rats with T2DM without soygurt supplementation (G2) in the fourth week had an average body weight of 107,500±5,59 or decreased by 33,50% from 0 weeks after alloxan induction. Soygurt diet based on statistical analysis had a positive effect on weight improvement in rats with T2DM. After four weeks of soygurt feeding in G3, G4, and G5, the bodyweight average was significantly different from T2DM rats with a non-soygurt diet (G2) (Table 3). Soygurt with 4ml/ day dose known to have the best effect on increasing body weight in T2DM rats.

Table 3. Effect of soygurt on rat's body weight

No.	Group	Body Weight (gram)			
		1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
1.	G1 (negative control/ healthy rats)	186,667 ± 13,74 <sup>a</sup>	186,667 ± 11,05 <sup>a</sup>	209,167 ± 7,31 <sup>a</sup>	218,333 ± 12,13 <sup>a</sup>
2.	G2 (T2DM rats/ positive control)	133,333 ± 14,62 <sup>b</sup>	123,333 ± 6,87 <sup>b</sup>	115,833 ± 4,48 <sup>c</sup>	107,500 ± 5,59 <sup>c</sup>
3.	G3 (T2DM rats with 2 ml soygurt diet)	140,833 ± 20,89 <sup>b</sup>	130,000 ± 20,81 <sup>b</sup>	134,167 ± 21,291 <sup>bc</sup>	145,000 ± 34,03 <sup>b</sup>
4.	G4 (T2DM rats with 3 ml soygurt diet)	140,833 ± 14,33 <sup>b</sup>	131,667 ± 15,72 <sup>b</sup>	138,333 ± 21,14 <sup>bc</sup>	149,167 ± 19,23 <sup>b</sup>
5.	G5 (T2DM rats with 4 ml soygurt diet)	137,500 ± 15,20 <sup>b</sup>	186,667 ± 17,26 <sup>b</sup>	156,667 ± 21,34 <sup>b</sup>	156,167 ± 9,42 <sup>b</sup>

Notes: Data are mean values from six repetitions. Means that do not share a letter (a, b, c) are significantly different ( $p < 0,05$ ).

**Effect of soygurt on lactic acid bacteria density**

In the first week after T2DM induction, there was no significant difference between lactic acid bacteria density in healthy and T2DM rats' feces. The effect of T2DM syndrome on lactic acid bacteria density appeared in the second week with a significant difference between G2 and G1 group. This result shows that the induction of T2DM has an effect on reducing lactic acid bacteria in faeces. Daily feeding of soygurt in T2DM rats based on statistical analysis is known to be able to increase lactic acid bacteria density in feces. In the second week of treatment, daily feeding of 2ml of soygurt (G2) was able to balance lactic acid bacteria density and was not significantly different from healthy rats (G1). Meanwhile, daily feeding of 3 ml and 4 ml soygurt significantly increase lactic acid bacteria compared to G1 and G2. In the last week of treatment, daily soygurt feeding in G3, G4, and G5 were significantly increasing lactic acid bacteria density in feces of T2DM rats.

Table 4. Effect of soygurt on lactic acid bacteria density

No.	Group	Lactic Acid Bacteria density (log <sub>10</sub> CFU/gram)			
		1st week	2nd week	3rd week	4th week
1.	G1 (negative control/ healthy rats)	8.28 ± 0.38 <sup>a</sup>	8.57 ± 0.75 <sup>b</sup>	8.54 ± 0.04 <sup>b</sup>	8.51 ± 0.24 <sup>b</sup>
2.	G2 (T2DM rats/ positive control)	8.18 ± 0.30 <sup>a</sup>	8.04 ± 0.23 <sup>a</sup>	7.99 ± 0.20 <sup>a</sup>	8.00 ± 0.16 <sup>a</sup>
3.	G3 (T2DM rats with 2 ml soygurt diet)	8.16 ± 0.32 <sup>a</sup>	8.65 ± 0.83 <sup>b</sup>	8.65 ± 0.64 <sup>b</sup>	9.36 ± 0.23 <sup>c</sup>
4.	G4 (T2DM rats with 3 ml soygurt diet)	8.15 ± 0.41 <sup>a</sup>	9.28 ± 0.44 <sup>c</sup>	9.69 ± 0.48 <sup>c</sup>	9.80 ± 0.69 <sup>c</sup>
5.	G5 (T2DM rats with 4 ml soygurt diet)	8.40 ± 0.32 <sup>b</sup>	9.46 ± 0.31 <sup>c</sup>	9.71 ± 0.15 <sup>c</sup>	9.70 ± 0.15 <sup>c</sup>

Notes: Data are mean values from six repetitions. Means that do not share a letter (a, b, c) are significantly different ( $p < 0,05$ ).

### Gross composition of soygurt

The result of the gross composition of soygurt presented in Table 5. Based on data analysis, soygurt product has balance composition for protein, fat, and lactic acid.

Table 5. Composition of soygurt

No.	Product	Protein (%FW)	Fat (%FW)	Lactic Acid (%FW)
1	Soygurt	4,1972	4,6636	4,0826

Yogurt products are generally produced from cow's milk as raw material and well known as milk-based yogurt. In soygurt, cow milk is replaced by soy milk, which has a similar nutritional value and a good source of protein (Messina, 2016). Serlahwaty et al. (2015) state that end product of soygurt is usually thinner than milk-based yogurt. To make it thicker skim milk usually adds as a thickener additive. Skim milk in soygurt fermentation can increase the total of non-fat solids, improving consistency and viscosity and coagulant formation. The result of gross composition analysis showed that soygurt contains protein 4,1972% and fat 4,6636% (Table 5) and accordance with quality requirements based on SNI 2981:2009. However, lactic acid composition in the product was not following SNI 2981:2009 and needed to evaluate. According to Mulyani et al. (2016), it can be evaluated by giving different variations of temperature and fermentation time in soygurt preparation.

Soygurt products in the present study tested to determine its benefits in blood sugar level, body weight, and lactic acid bacteria density in rat feces. The test was performed on male albino Wistar rats with T2DM positive (blood sugar > 200 mg/dl). Induction of T2DM was carried out by inducing rats with a single intraperitoneal dose of 175mg/kg alloxan monohydrate. Results showed that alloxan could positively cause hyperglycemia in rats with fasting blood sugar value 465-529 mg/dl and significantly different ( $p < 0,05$ ) with negative control (G1) (Table 1). Rats after T2DM induction also experienced significant weight loss and different ( $p < 0,05$ ) from negative control after four days of conditioning (Table 1). Based on significant fasting blood sugar values (>400 mg/dl) and significant weight loss, it can be concluded that T2DM conditioning in experimental rats has been achieved.

This present study was similar to previous findings by Utami et al. (2015) that have reported that alloxan monohydrate had a positive effect as diabetogenic in rats to perform T2DM syndrome. Research by (Husni et al., 2016) showed that the administration of alloxan in rats led to a significant increase in blood glucose levels after three days. Alloxan induced diabetic rats did not show a significant decrease in body weight after the induction. However, body weight had decreased in 15 days of treatment and significantly different from the healthy rat group. Alloxan is diabetogenic that can induce T2DM conditions in animals in a relatively short period. As a strong oxidant, alloxan can increase the generation of reactive oxygen species from metabolic reactions in the body. Together with the massive increase of cytosolic calcium concentration, it can rapidly cause the destruction of pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells (Susilawati et al., 2014; Ighodaro et al., 2018). Alloxan-induced diabetes in rats also can trigger liver morphological and ultrastructural changes that closely resembled human disease (Lucchesi et al., 2015).

This present study showed that soygurt feeding in diabetic rats with three variations of treatment could significantly ( $p < 0,05$ ), lowering the blood sugar level in the third week of treatment. The best dose for lowering blood glucose levels quickly

was 4ml/ day (G5). Treatment of 4ml/day soygurt in the first week was able to lower blood glucose levels significantly compared to the diabetic control group. In 0 weeks before soygurt feeding treatment, the average blood sugar level in G5 diabetic rats was  $465 \pm 52,2$  mg/dl, after four weeks of 4ml soygurt feeding blood sugar levels was  $226 \pm 66,94$  mg/dl (Table 2) or decreased by 51,39%. Treatment of 2ml and 3ml soygurt also had a positive effect on lowering the blood sugar level in diabetic rats because it was significantly different ( $p < 0,05$ ) from control (G2) (Table 2). This result also supports the previous study by Sartang et al. (2015) that reported the effect of probiotic soymilk fortified with Omega-3 in rats induced with Streptozotocin Nicotinamide, which significantly reduced blood sugar levels. Riyanto & Muwarni (2015) also report that soy fermentation products can lower blood sugar and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) in hypercholesterolemia rats. Choi et al. (2016) also reported that soy fermentation with probiotic Licheniformis-67, significantly lowering blood sugar, insulin levels, serum, and hepatic lipid profiles.

In this study, there was a significant reduction in body weight in diabetic rats after alloxan induction. Healthy rats in the G1 group were in generally good condition and had progressive weight gain every week. In the fourth week of treatment, average body weight in G1 was  $218,333 \pm 12,13$  gram, and significantly different from diabetics rats (G2) with average bodyweight  $107,500 \pm 5,59$  gram (Table 3). The weight loss may be due to the catabolic processes involved in diabetes mellitus. From the first week of soygurt feeding in 2ml (G3), 3ml (G4), and 4ml (G5) volume, body weight in diabetic rats were significantly increased compared to non-yogurt treatment diabetic rats (G2). The result in this present study showed that daily soygurt feeding in diabetic rats could improve body weight in diabetic rats; this may be attributed to the mitigation of catabolic processes by soygurt. This present study support previous research by Veerichetty (2018), who also stated that a combination of soymilk and flaxseed milk fermentation could significantly increase body weight in diabetic rats in the first week of treatment.

In general, the result of this study support another research related to potential probiotics products, especially soygurt, as a healthy diet on T2DM. Jayaswal & Prabhakar (2017) stated that probiotics bacteria such as *Lactobacillus acidophilus* and *Bifidobacterium bifidum* have a vital role in helping stabilize blood sugar levels. Kasińska & Drzewoski (2015) revealed that probiotic bacteria in yogurt could help maintain intestinal microbiota. These effects inhibit the transfer of bacterial endotoxins into the bloodstream and reduce the production of a pro-inflammatory cytokine to reduce inflammatory response through neutralizing circulating lipopolysaccharides (LPS). Decreased inflammation will correlate in lowering insulin resistance, and blood glucose levels can be controlled. Based on the result in the present study (Table 4), daily soygurt feeding in diabetic rats significantly increased lactic acid bacteria density in feces compared to healthy rats (control group G2). Statistical analysis showed that an increase of lactic acid bacteria in feces was positively correlated with blood sugar decrease in diabetic rate, so it can be concluded that soygurt feeding was able to improve gut microbial dysbiosis due to T2DM syndrome.

Soygurt effectiveness in lowering the T2DM effect can be influenced by the high content of soy milk in the product. Soymilk, according to Bintari et al. (2015), is rich in isoflavones, which are commonly known as antihyperglycemic agents. Soy isoflavones are active biological substances with estrogen-like chemical structures. Several epidemiological types of research have associated isoflavone consumption by reducing the risk of diabetes and diabetes-related complications. Soybeans



naturally contain isoflavones, including genistein (El-kordy & Alshahrani, 2015), daidzein, and glycitein (Sahin et al., 2019). Genistein, as predominant natural soy isoflavone, has a protective effect on pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells damage, possesses the ability to regenerate  $\beta$ -cells, and improves serum levels of insulin and glucose in STZ-induced diabetic rats. It can be concluded that genistein in soy is an anti-diabetogenic potential agent for T2DM. High dosage of genistein possesses the ability to regenerate  $\beta$ -cells that results in increasing the lowered serum insulin and consequently decreasing high serum glucose in diabetic rats (El-kordy & Alshahrani, 2015).

The result of this study showed that soygurt product was effective in improving metabolism in T2DM rats in terms of their ability to lowering blood sugar levels, improving body weight, and lactic acid bacteria. The fermentation process in soygurt is an efficient way to produce bioactive peptides; it also promotes protein digestion and solubilization of calcium and improves the health and immune system (Veerichetty, 2018). Probiotic supplementation is positively correlated with gut microbiota modification, and it may be a method for preventing and control hyperglycemia in clinical practice (Wu et al., 2015).

The limitation of this study has not yet analyzed the correlation of soygurt consumption on improving gut microbiota and its effect on blood sugar levels. Further studies with similar objectives are recommended to evaluate soygurt adjunctive therapy for T2DM and its correlation in gut microbiota modification. We recognize our results in this animal model study may not powerful enough to predict the effects of soygurt in blood sugar and body weight balancing in humans with T2DM. Lastly, we recommend using a large number of animal studies and an equal number of controls to provide more statistical robustness of the effect of soygurt consumption in blood sugar and body weight balancing in T2DM syndrome.

## CONCLUSION

Soygurt consumption have a positive effect on lowering blood glucose levels in rats with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. Daily soygurt consumption was also effective in improving the rat's body weight after 28 days of treatment.

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